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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1954

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Marginal Column

By ZENY LAQUEUR

WHEN these lines appear in print, the first American election results will be in. Over the past few days, the U.S. Coast Guard more news will arrive every few minutes and will be eagerly followed as the race between the Democrats and Republicans for the National League pennant. And there is some reason for concern that the general election, the few basic truths may be forgotten. One of them is that, whatever the election results, no important changes in American domestic or foreign policy can possibly ensue. A Democratic victory is generally expected, but the Democrats for many years have been two different parties under the same emblem. A conservative coalition will rule Congress whatever the returns, and there will be little change in American domestic or foreign policy.

OFF-year elections, most observers tend to agree, usually reflect a protest: unemployment, loss of overtime, declining farm prices. Power, it is said, has been concentrated within the Republican Party, while the minority status in the third Congress has united the Democrats. But the fundamental fact in American politics is now—and has been since the death of the Roosevelt and anti-Roosevelt coalition in 1932—that there is no stable and effective majority for either Party. Minorities vote less and less on religious, racial and ethnic lines, and the new middle class is politically divided. American politics, says Samuel Lubell, one of the most astute observers of the American scene, have remained the politics of twilight. Millions of voters continue to be rugged simultaneously in conflicting directions—by dividing and shifting fears, by their memories of the past and the necessities of the present, by the crumbling of traditional party loyalties accompanied by a mistrust of both parties.

AND yet there is nothing essentially wrong in American political institutions that cannot be healed by time, and "time" means the trust in reason, the generally sound and sane attitude of the majority to the Tocqueville and Lord Bryce. Many of the evils recorded one hundred or fifty years ago by these observers and commentators are still present and incurable, then, have vanished entirely. All the present shortcomings would undoubtedly be repeated, the democratic institutions of the United States would be restored—provided there was time. But all appearances point to the fact that there is no time left. Outwardly, everything appears fine. The average standard of living of Americans is one that the average European will probably not attain in the twentieth century. As Mr. Oscar Gasca has pointed out in an important article recently, the American people are in a state of confusion, others about authoritarian trends, but the sources of influence, strength and authority are in the hands of a few. The average standard of living of Americans is one that the average European will probably not attain in the twentieth century. As Mr. Oscar Gasca has pointed out in an important article recently, the American people are in a state of confusion, others about authoritarian trends, but the sources of influence, strength and authority are in the hands of a few. The average standard of living of Americans is one that the average European will probably not attain in the twentieth century. As Mr. Oscar Gasca has pointed out in an important article recently, the American people are in a state of confusion, others about authoritarian trends, but the sources of influence, strength and authority are in the hands of a few.

THESE historians of the future will perhaps be slightly amused by the attempts of the West to practice parliamentary democracy as before, to its preoccupation in electoral campaigns every year or two years, thus voluntarily accepting a handicap which made it fall behind the East. Bryce noted that "the tendency everywhere in America to concentrate power and responsibility in one man is unmistakable... he is in some respects better fitted both to represent and to influence public opinion than is Congress." Congress, however, has not been able to do this. The equivalent of a constitutional monarch and that his prestige, in contrast to the prestige of the Republican Party) has not decreased. This may be a natural trend in view of the international situation. But it is only part, the smaller and less important part, of the preparation which is needed, and according to Mr. Gasca and other observers, is still absent.

Jerusalem, November 2.

Rosen Is Re-elected Progressive President

TEL AVIV, Tuesday. — The Executive Council of the Progressive Party today re-elected Mr. Pinhas Rosen, Minister of Justice, as President. A 63-man Board was also elected as well as a Council of Ministers and a Court of Honour.

Questions relating to regional elections and the party's stand in the forthcoming general elections were referred to a future meeting.

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US Vote Expected To Exceed 45 Million

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. — Voters swarmed to the polls despite bad weather over half the country today to pass judgment on President Eisenhower's Republican Administration. The total vote by poll-closing across the land seemed likely to hit or top 45,000,000 in this mid-term Congressional election. In places as far apart as Utah and Kentucky the voting was reported as heavy or heavier than in 1952, when a record 61,678,982 ballots were counted.

French Land Police, Troops in Algeria

ALGER, Tuesday (UP). — More than 2,000 paratroops and police were flown here today to end a sudden outbreak of organized terrorism in France's most peaceful North African possession.

The sudden upsurge of anti-French violence killed seven persons and wounded 10 yesterday. It was the first major terrorist strike in Algeria since World War II.

Until that series of bitter attacks, Algeria had remained calm, with Tunisia to the East and Morocco to the West.

Observers said that the violence which occurred simultaneously at numerous places, apparently was inspired and possibly engineered by Moroccan and Tunisian Nationalists.

Police announced "numerous" arrests in the Aurès region, which is not far from the Tunisian frontier. This suggested that the terrorist-banded bands of Tunisia might be behind the Algerian trouble.

French authorities stated that the Cairo station "Voice of the Arabs" had for some time been re-broadcasting Algerian Nationalist propaganda for their inactivity.

Chinese Planes, Artillery Again Hit Chiang's Isles

TAIPEI, Tuesday (UP). — Chinese warplanes and artillery unleashed new attacks today against the Tachen Islands, the last of the Chinese-held islands in the Taiwan Strait.

Five twin-engine bombers bombed Yikiang-shan, Tachen's north anchor, while batteries on Tachen Island resumed the heavy shelling of Yikiang-shan, begun yesterday, when Communist guns shelled the island for the first time.

The Tachen Islands lie about 300 kms. from the northern tip of Formosa.

Meanwhile, Nationalist bombers and warships retaliated on the mainland today for yesterday's bombing of Tachen Island. Military sources said that the Nationalists bombed Chiehling coastal positions and Tachen Island this morning.

UN to Hear Soviet Charges Of Aggression, Piracy

UNITED NATIONS, Tuesday (UP). — The General Assembly today voted to recommend full U.N. debate on Soviet charges of aggression and piracy against the U.S. and Nationalist China.

The Soviet Union charged the U.S. with Formosa-based aggression against China and alleged that Chiang Kai-shek's Government is guilty of piracy against shipping in the China Seas.

Shops in 4-Hour Tax Strike

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Merchants Association called out their members from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. yesterday and held a demonstration in the three cities to demand tax relief for self-employed persons, and to protest against "oppressive" taxation.

The occasion was the 30th day since the seizure of Israel Sinai by the Egyptian Government, who committed suicide claiming that he despaired of paying his taxes.

The strike was almost solidly observed in city centres, but the suburbs seemed to take it less seriously, small shopkeepers naming the fear of competition from non-members of the Association as their reason for staying open. They had good reason, as peddlars and a number of kiosk owners went their own way, doing a brisk trade.

Many of those who closed were sincere and impassioned partisans of the strike movement; the majority were conformists and there was one Jerusalem electrician who told the Jerusalem Post that he feared he might get a brick through his window if he stayed open.

Pharmacies and barbers, the latter affiliated to the Artisans Association, were conspicuously open.

The grievances of self-employed persons were voiced by the Secretary of the Merchants Association, Mr. E. Goussman, at a rally in the Mograbi cinema hall, Tel Aviv. He claimed that they paid more in taxes than employed persons with equivalent income, and are obliged to pay large bulk sums beyond their means.

TWO KILLED ON HAIFA STREETS

HAIFA, Tuesday. — Two persons were killed on Haifa streets today, a pedestrian walking along Al-Nasr Street this morning was knocked down and killed instantly by a military ambulance.

The driver of the vehicle on the wet asphalt and ran it up on the sidewalk. The victim was Shimon Fariss, 22, a Public Works Department engineer, whose wife is expecting a baby. The driver, Yav-Turai Mordochai Leon, a marine, was detained.

In New Shana's main street, Rehov Hagall, three-and-a-half year old David ben David was killed when a fuel truck backing up knocked him down. The body was taken to Rambam Hospital. The driver Yael Kompanis, 28, of Haifa was detained.

BUS IN MID-AIR

NATANYA, Tuesday. — Three persons were injured today when an Eked bus partly overturned on the Alexander Bridge on the Kiriat Vitkin highway.

The bus remained at the end of the bridge, suspended in mid-air over the river bed.

THE JERUSALEM POST

Britain Would Aid Israel If Attacked by Arabs—Eden

West May Ask Arabs Join Turkey, Pakistan

CAIRO, Tuesday (Reuters). — The Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League, Aref Abuheila, said today that talks were underway between Britain, the U.S. and Turkey with a view to changing the Turkish-Pakistani pact into a regional defence system including the Arab states and Persia.

The new defence structure would be known as the North Middle East Alliance, he added.

Abuheila stated that the reason for the move — which was said to be contained in an "official paper" received by the League Secretariat — was the non-adherence of the Arab states to the Turkish-Pakistani pact created "a vacuum" in Middle East defence.

He declined to give the source of this official report or to comment further on it.

President Bayar Lauds Cairo's Cooperation

ANKARA, Tuesday (Reuters). — President Celal Bayar said yesterday that Egypt had shown a spirit of solidarity in accepting the principle of British reoccupation of the Suez Canal zone in the event of an attack on Turkey.

In a two-hour speech opening the Grand National Assembly, Mr. Bayar declared that Turkey's friendly policy towards the Arab states was beginning to bear fruit.

Reports which have appeared in the Turkish press that President Bayar had not yet been confirmed officially.

Urges Closer Ties

The Egyptian Ambassador here has urged closer ties between Turkey and Egypt.

ANKARA Radio reported yesterday that the Egyptian Ambassador, Mr. Farouk el-Din, had said that the Egyptian Government did not accept it — that their action was based on their claim to be exercising a legitimate right.

There was no evidence which he had been able to discover of the persecution of the Jews in Egypt, Mr. Farouk el-Din said.

Members of Parliament today demanded of Minister of State Anthony Nutting more definite assurances from the Egyptian Government that the evacuation of the Suez Canal zone, would not endanger Israel's security, and that the Egyptian Government would not attempt to develop the Suez Canal.

Egypt Rebuked For Attack on Beduin

The Israel-Egypt Mixed Armistice Commission, in one of three emergency meetings held at Kilometer 58 yesterday, rebuked Egypt for an incident last Friday in which about 50 armed men had crossed the border from Egypt and had attacked an Israeli Beduin tribe, wounding three persons and stealing nearly all of the livestock.

The Commission found that the attackers, who used small arms and grenades, had taken about 200 sheep and goats and 100 camels, thereby depriving the Israeli tribe of its means of existence.

Three of the attackers were killed in the action and another was wounded. The Commission further found that the action constituted a breach of the General Armistice Agreement and called upon Egypt to take immediate action to stop such violations of the Agreement and to return forthwith the robbed livestock to Israel.

The resolution was adopted, with the Chairman and the Israeli delegate voting for and the Egyptian delegate voting against.

In the other two meetings held by the Commission yesterday, both Israel and Egypt were found to have violated the Armistice Agreement by firing across the line last Saturday.

The Commission found that an Israeli routine patrol along the Demarcation Line was attacked by automatic fire and three-inch mortars from Egyptian military positions. The M.A.C. also found that on the same day an armed Israeli patrol had fired small arms and mortar shells across the line, wounding two Egyptian soldiers.

Both sides were called upon to take steps to prevent such violations in the future.

Israel-Jordan MAC Meeting Postponed

The Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission meeting yesterday morning in emergency session under the chairmanship of Lieut.-Col. Charles Brewster to discuss a complaint received from the Israeli patrol in the Megiddo district on Monday. The meeting was postponed until tomorrow, as the on-the-scene investigation report has not been completed.

According to the Jordan complaint, an Israeli Army force opened fire on Jordan shepherds in the Sababir district of the Jenin area, ANA reports. There were no casualties in the exchange of fire, the report said.

'Brotherhood' Probers Threatened with Death

CAIRO, Tuesday (UP). — Prosecution officials investigating the attempted assassination of Premier Gamal Abdul Nasser and the alleged Moslem Brotherhood plot against the Government have received anonymous letters threatening them with death, police said today.

The search continues, meanwhile, for the families of the "master-mind" of the Brotherhood's secret cell, for whom a reward of LE1,200 has been posted.

LAVON, DAYAN REPORT TO COMMITTEE

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, in a meeting in Tel Aviv yesterday, heard a review of the security situation by the Minister of Defense, Mr. Pinhas Rosen.

Mr. Rosen, who is also Minister of Defense, said that the security situation was "satisfactory" and that the Government was "well prepared" to meet any possible threat.

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